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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/000,093	12/04/2001	Jeong-Min Moon	041501-5470	8028

9629 7590 04/04/2003

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EXAMINER

LEE, GUIYOUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

10/000,093

Examiner

Guiyoung Lee

Applicant(s)

MOON, JEONG-MIN

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication appears on the cover sheet with th correspondence addr ss --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6, 16, and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ge et al. (USPT 5,859,508) in view of Saito et al. (USPT 6,474,825 B1).

Re claims 1 and 23: Ge teaches a flat type fluorescent lamp having first and second substrates (504 and 506 in Fig. 5A), a light-emitting layer (514), and a plurality of supporters (502). Ge does not disclose a light-scattering layer placed adjacent the plurality of supports. However, Saito et al. (USPT 6,474,825 B1) discloses a light-scattering layer (3 in Fig. 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Ge's supporters with Saito's light-scattering layer in order to maintain the distance between the substrate and the light-scattering layer.

Re claim 2: Saito teaches a reflecting portion (4 in Fig. 1).

Re claims 3-6: Ge teaches that the supporters are formed of glass (Fig. 6). Further, Ge discloses that the supporters are column-shaped and the surface area of the upper surface is different than the surface area of the lower surface (502a in Fig. 6).

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Re claim 16: Ge discloses that the supports include an upper surface that is substantially curved (502 in Fig. 5A).

Re claim 19-21: Ge teaches a cap attached to the upper portion of the supporters (530 in Fig. 5A).

Re claim 22: Ge teaches that the supporters are formed separately from the first substrate (See 502 in Fig. 5A).

4. Claims 7-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ge and Saito as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lowe (USPT 5,561,343) and Anderson et al. (USPT 5,811,927).

Re claims 7-15 and 17: Ge does not disclose various types of supporters including a cylindrical shape, a polygonal shape, or a spherical shape as set forth in the claims 7-15 and 17. However, Lowe discloses a cylindrical-shaped supporter (Fig. 3A) and a polygonal-shaped supporter (Fig. 3B). Further, Anderson discloses that the upper surface of a supporter has a spherical shape (169 in Fig. 9). It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to employ various types of supporter as suggested by Lowe and Anderson, since applicant has not disclosed that such shapes of supporters solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with Ge's supporter.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Guiyoung Lee** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8567**. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 8:00 AM to 3:30PM Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea, can be reached on (703) 305-4939. The fax phone number for this Group is (703)872-9318 (before final rejection), (703)872-9319 (after final rejection). The Right Fax phone number for the examiner is (703)746-4766.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [**Guiyoung.lee@uspto.gov**].

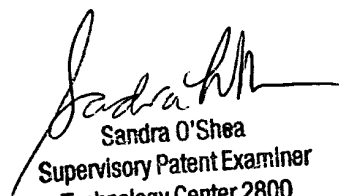
All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

GYL

GAU2875

March/26/2003


Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800